

# REPUBLICAN CONGRESS IS MELTING

(Mr. KLINK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, as we bring this 104th Congress to an end, I look at the pieces of legislation that the Republicans are so proud of, the fact that they brag about bringing the Members of Congress under all of the laws that the rest of the Nation are under. Well, that was the very first bill that I introduced back at the beginning of the 103d Congress.

And they are so proud, of course, of the fact that they passed the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill, even though Senator KENNEDY, who was one of the authors of the bill, is one of the liberals they love to hate.

They are so proud of the fact that they were able to raise the minimum wage and indeed that was something that Senator KENNEDY, the liberal that they love to hate, also put forward.

It kind of reminds me of the politician who is talking to the farmer, and he is bragging about all the things he did, and he noticed the smile on the farmer's face, and he says, "Why are you smiling?," and the farmer points out the fact that the politician is standing in a big, fresh cow pie and he says, "I think you are melting."

I think indeed as the bucket brigade from the Republican side walks around talking about how they saved us from all of the ice that was delivered to our offices, that they better look around, because I think they are melting.

# TOO MANY PRODUCTS AND TOO FEW JOBS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. trade deficit once again is at a record level. Japan is in to us for more than \$60 billion. China is eating our clock at about \$40 billion. Mexico and Canada are now approaching \$40 billion.

The result is, since 1991, we have lost 13 million jobs and 60 percent of those workers today are in jobs that pay less than half of what they previously earned. So when some spin-master coined the term "downsizing," they were very conservative.

The truth is, it does not take a rocket scientist, since NAFTA, GATT, WTO, "GNAT" and "PMS," I say to my colleagues, America is sending jobs and money overseas, and in return, we get a boatload of Suzukis and two baseball players to be named later.

Beam me up. What is next, folks? NAFTA II?

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of the jobs left.

# 104TH CONGRESS MOST SUCCESSFUL IN A GENERATION

(Mr. WALKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, the American people may wonder why over the last few weeks they have heard so much hate, venom and smear uttered on this floor. People who should know better have been on this floor, making hateful statements, venomous statements and statements of smear.

The fact is that this is their political agenda, and what they are worried about is the fact that the 104th Congress has been the most successful Congress in a generation, and the Speaker of the House, NEWT GINGRICH, has been the most successful Speaker of this century. That is what they are concerned about.

# MUCH ACCOMPLISHED, MUCH YET TO BE DONE

(Mr. LINDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, it is always humorous to listen to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. KLINK] stand here and complain about this Congress. The gentleman said that the Accountability Act was one that he introduced in the 103d Congress. That was a Democrat Congress with a Democrat President, and he could not get it passed.

We have heard that the minimum wage was a Democratic initiative, but they had a Democrat Congress and a Democrat President in the 103d and they could not get it passed.

This Congress has also imposed congressional reforms and the line-item veto. Indeed, 7 of the 14 accomplishments listed by the President in his acceptance speech in Chicago were items in the Contract With America that he signed. Seventy percent of that contract is signed into law and the President is proudly taking credit for it.

This has been a successful Congress. We have achieved much telecommunications reform, welfare reform, the Farm Act. We have achieved much, but we have much left to do, and we intend to be back here in the majority in January, completing our work.

# ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken later in the day.

# SAVINGS IN CONSTRUCTION ACT OF 1996

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4233) to provide for appropriate implementation of the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 in Federal construction projects, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4233

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Savings in Construction Act of 1996".

## SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The Metric Conversion Act of 1975 was enacted in order to set forth the policy of the United States to convert to the metric system. Section 3 of that Act requires that each Federal agency use the metric system of measurements in its procurement, grants, and other business-related activities, unless that use is likely to cause significant cost or loss of markets to United States firms, such as when foreign competitors are producing competing products in non-metric units.

(2) In accordance with that Act and Executive Order 12770, of July 25, 1991, Federal agencies increasingly construct new Federal buildings in round metric dimensions. As a result, companies that wish to bid on Federal construction projects increasingly are asked to supply materials or products in round metric dimensions.

(3) While the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 currently provides an exemption to metric usage when impractical or when such usage will cause economic inefficiencies, amendments are warranted to ensure that the use of specific metric components in metric construction projects do not increase the cost of Federal buildings to the taxpayers.

## SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 4 of the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 (15 U.S.C. 205c) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3);

(2) by striking "Commerce." in paragraph (4) and inserting "Commerce"; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

"(5) 'full and open competition' has the same meaning as defined in section 403(6) of title 41, United States Code;

"(6) 'total installed price' means the price of purchasing a product or material, trimming or otherwise altering some or all of that product or material, if necessary to fit with other building components, and then installing that product or material into a Federal facility;

"(7) 'hard-metric' means measurement, design, and manufacture using the metric system of measurement, but does not include measurement, design, and manufacture using English system measurement units which are subsequently reexpressed in the metric system of measurement;

"(8) 'cost or pricing data or price analysis' has the meaning given such terms in section 304A of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 254b); and

"(9) 'Federal facility' means any public building (as defined under section 13 of the Public Buildings Act of 1959 (40 U.S.C. 612) and shall include any Federal building or construction project—

"(A) on lands in the public domain;

"(B) on lands used in connection with Federal programs for agriculture research, recreation, and conservation programs;